Selection of Serials by the Doordarshan

1141. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to statae:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Doordarshan has cleared and rejected a large number of sponsored T. V. serials during the year 1986;

(b) wheher it is also a fact that during the last quarter of 1986, the Doordarshan has screened more serials than during the first three quarters;

(c) if so, what are the details of the serials with titles and the names of Producers which have been cleared for screening during January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December, quarter-wise during 1986; and

(d) what are the details of the serials approved, region-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA):(a) to (d) Doordarshan has adopted a new, set of guidelines for screening proposals for telecast of sponsored serials. These were made operational from 18th July, 1986. In accordance with these guidelines, the proposals are classified into specific categories on the basis of their subject matter and placed category-wise before a high ranking Selection Committee (Which includes non-official members) for its consideration. The Committee selects the best amongst them, the number depending upon Doordarshan's requirement over a period of time in the relevant category.

In order to clear the backlog which had assumed serious proportions, the Committee met almost every day towards the latter part of 1986. While the serials have been cleared for further act'on, it is not possible to indicate when these would be finally telecasts as a number of formalities are required to be completed before the serials can be actually telecast. The selection of serials is not made region-wise.

1142. [*Transferred to the 10th March*, 1987].

MIG crashes

1143. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what wa the number of MIG aircrafts which crashed in 1985 and 1986 during flight practices;

(b) whether Government have assessed the factors responsible for such crashes;

(c) whether remedial measures are being taken in consultation with the Russian designers; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) MIG aircraft were involved in air crashes during 1985 and 1986. The number of aircraft involved in such crashes cannot be disclosed in the public interest. Detailed investigations are carried out by a Court of Inquiry consisting of various specialists in each case. Thereafter all factors contributing to the crash are assessed.

(c) and (d) Soviet designers were consulted. Remedial measures, Recommended by the Courts of Inquiry, were also taken. It would not be in the public interest to disclose further details in this regard.